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reassigning at least one device from a second set of one or more devices to a first set of one or more devices based upon requirements of the training exercise; managing a set of devices in the first set required to perform the training exercise; and directing one or more of the required devices to execute the at least one training instruction.

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40.

(Thrice Amended) A system for training users, the system comprising: a device controller connected to one or more client machines via a network, the device controller receiving control information from the one or more client machines, the control information having at least one training instruction regarding at least one task to be performed as part of a training exercise; an infrastructure control module that reassigns at least one device from a second set of one or more devices to a first set of one or more devices based upon requirements of the training exercise; and a control system that manages a set of devices in the first set required to perform the training exercise, the control system directing the one or more required devices to execute the at least one training instruction.

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52.

(Thrice Amended) A system for training users, the system comprising: a device controller including: receiving means for receiving control information, the control information having at least one training instruction from one or more client machines regarding at least one task to be performed as part of a training exercise; reassigning means for reassigning at least one device from a second set of one or more devices to a first set of one or more devices based upon requirements of the training exercise; and control means for managing a set of devices in the first set required to perform the training exercise, the control means directing the one or more required devices to execute the at least one training instruction.

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64.

(Amended) The method of claim 2/1, wherein the control information received at the device controller is in a first network protocol, further comprising:

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the device controller translating the control information from the first network protocol to a second network protocol prior to transmitting the control information.

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~~65~~ (Amended) The system of claim ~~40~~¹⁴, wherein the control information received at the device controller is in a first network protocol, and wherein the device controller is further capable of translating the control information from the first network protocol to a second network protocol prior to transmitting the control information.

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~~66~~ (Amended) The system of claim ~~52~~²⁶, wherein the device controller further includes:

means for translating the control information from a first network protocol to a second network protocol prior to transmitting the control information.

Please add claims ~~67~~⁴-85 as follows:

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~~67~~ (New) A system comprising:
a control system that receives control information having at least one training instruction regarding at least one task to be performed as part of a training exercise, the control system managing one or more devices in a first set of one or more devices which are required to perform the training exercise, the control system directing a set of the one or more required devices to execute the at least one training instruction; and
an infrastructure control module that reassigns at least one device from a second set of one or more devices to the set of one or more required devices based upon requirements of the training exercise.

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~~68~~ (New) The system of claim ~~67~~³⁸ wherein the control system enables one or more client machines sending the control information to remotely access the set of the one or more required devices to perform the training exercise on the set of the one or more required devices.

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~~69~~ (New) The system of claim ~~67~~³⁸ further comprising a user communication module that translates the received control information from a first network protocol understood by one or more client machines to a second protocol understood by the set of one or more required devices.

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70. (New) The system of claim 67 wherein the control system receives exercise start information from one or more client machines, the exercise start information reflecting a request from the one or more client machines that the training exercise begin, the control system determining initialization information based upon the received exercise start information, the control system initializing the set of one or more required devices in accordance with the initialization information.

42 41
71. (New) The system of claim 70 further comprising a firewall established between a network and the control system, the control system transmitting access information through the firewall in response to receiving the exercise start information to authorize the one or more client machines to access at least one device in the set of one or more required devices.

43 38
72. (New) The system of claim 67 wherein at least one of the devices in the set of one or more required devices is a network device, a router or a switch.

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73. (New) The system of claim 67 wherein the control system transfers reset information to at least one of the devices in the set of one or more required devices upon completing the training exercise to place the at least one device in an initial state.

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74. (New) A method comprising:
receiving control information having at least one training instruction regarding at least one task to be performed as part of a training exercise;
managing one or more devices in the first set of one or more devices which are required to perform the training exercise;
directing a set of the one or more required devices to execute the at least one training instruction; and
reassigning at least one device from a second set of one or more devices to the set of the one or more required devices based upon requirements of the training exercise.

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75. (New) The method of claim 74 further comprising enabling one or more client machines sending the control information to remotely access the set of the one or more

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required devices to perform the training exercise on the set of the one or more required devices.

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76. (New) The method of claim ⁴⁵74 further comprising translating the received control information from a first network protocol to a second network protocol.

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77. (New) The method of claim ⁴⁵74 further comprising:
receiving exercise start information reflecting a request from one or more client machines that the training exercise begin;
determining initialization information based upon the received exercise start information; and
initializing the set of the one or more required devices in accordance with the initialization information.

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78. (New) The method of claim ⁴⁸77 further comprising transmitting access information through a firewall in response to receiving the exercise start information to authorize the one or more client machines to access at least one device in the set of the one or more required devices.

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79. (New) The method of claim ⁴⁵74 further comprising transmitting reset information to at least one device in the set of the one or more required devices upon completion of the training exercise to place the at least one device in an initial state.

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80. (New) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when executed by at least one processor, causes the at least one processor to perform:
receiving control information having at least one training instruction regarding at least one task to be performed as part of a training exercise;
managing one or more devices in the first set of one or more devices which are required to perform the training exercise;
directing a set of the one or more required devices to execute the at least one training instruction; and
reassigning at least one device from a second set of one or more devices to the set of the one or more required devices based upon requirements of the training exercise.

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81. (New) The medium of claim 51 further comprising enabling one or more client machines sending the control information to remotely access the set of the one or more required devices to perform the training exercise on the set of the one or more required devices.

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82. (New) The medium of claim 51 further comprising translating the received control information from a first network protocol to a second network protocol.

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83. (New) The medium of claim 51 further comprising:
receiving exercise start information reflecting a request from one or more client machines that the training exercise begin;
determining initialization information based upon the received exercise start information; and
initializing the set of the one or more required devices in accordance with the initialization information.

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84. (New) The medium of claim 54 further comprising transmitting access information through a firewall in response to receiving the exercise start information to authorize one or more client machines to access at least one device in the set of the one or more required devices.

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85. (New) The medium of claim 51 further comprising transmitting reset information to at least one device in the set of the one or more required devices upon completion of the training exercise to place the at least one device in an initial state.